being in force are permitted for export.

Targets for Agricultural Exports

3541. SHRI S.S. SURJEWALA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) what target has been fixed by Government to export the Agricultural Products such as rice, cotton and wheat during the current and the next financial year;

(b) whether the targets fixed by Government during the last two years have since been achieved and if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) how much foreign exchange was earned by exporting the above commodities during the last two years and whether the proposed targets are likely to be achieved;

(d) what are the agencies which exported these commodities during the last two years and whether the individual farmers/farmers' cooperatives have also exported the above mentioned commodities; and

(e) if so, the break-up of the above commodities?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) to (e) Agricultural commodities exported from India cover a wide spectrum which includes oil meals, cashew kernels, tobacco, spices, fruits and vegetables, meat & meat products, sugar and molasses, rice, wheat, etc. Targets fixed for the export of agricultural commodities (except cotton) during 1992-93 and 1993-94 were US $ 2000 millions and US $ 2255 millions respectively. As against the targets, exports were US $ 1953 million and US $ 2399 millions during 1992-93 and 1993-94 respectively. No targets for export of agricultural commodities have been fixed for 1994-95 and 1995-96. Government attaches high priority to the export of agricultural commodities. It is, however, the policy of the Government to regulate the export of items of mass consumption in such a manner that it does not compromise our food security.

In respect of export of cotton, a quantity of 5.00 lakh bales (of 170 kgs each) are targetted for exports every year. This however, is subject to review during the course of every year should the availability in the domestic market fall for any reason. The details of export of cotton during cotton year 1992-93 and 1993-94, are given below:

Qty: in lakh tonnes
Val: Rs. in crores

Year	Quantity shipped	Value
1992-93	13.77	725.37
1993-94	3.114	184.48 (Till 5.7.94)

During 1992-93, while there was 4% growth is agricultural exports, over the previous year, the target could not be achieved primarily because of the recession in the industrially advanced countries.

Exports of agricultural commodities are effected by agencies in the public sector, private sector and the cooperative sector. Government does not maintain details of export effected agencies and individuals.

Shortfall in Tea Production

3542. SHRI BHAGABAN MAJHI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for the shortfall of tea production in the country;

(b) the steps taken to remove those bottlenecks;

(c) the steps taken to increase tea production during the Eighth Five Year Plan period;

(d) the schemes drawn up thereon for the Ninth Plan; and

(e) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) and (b) Production of tea in the country has been increasing steadily. Between 1983 to 1993, there has been an increase of nearly 30% in overall production level in the country with all major tea growing regions showing a steady increase.

(c) In order to increase production, Tea Board has been operating various developmental schemes. Under these schemes tea gardens are provided financial and technical assistance for overall development. Nature of assistance include term loans, capital subsidy, interest subsidy on bank loan, grants-in-aid etc. for various developmental activities. Besides these, grants are also being provided to the Tea Research Association for strengthening research activities and in turn augmenting tea production through extension programmes for improving the quality and productivity.

(d) and (e) Approach paper for developmental activities in respect of tea industry, during the Ninth Plan period, has not been finalised by the Tea Board.

World Trade in Computer Software

3543. SHRI E. BALANANDAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total volume of world trade in Computer Software and what proportion of that is accounted for by India; and

(b) what are the estimates of software exports in the coming ten years, and the expected direction of such exports?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) The total volume of world trade in computer software and services during 1993-94 was estimated to be about US $ 250 billion while our exports of computer software and services were about US $ 329 million.

(b) while exports of software have been growing at an appreciable rate in the last few years, it is difficult to predict what the exports will be ten years from now as exports depend on many factors, both internal and external to the economy. Exports are likely to be to countries such as USA, Japan, Germany, France, UK and Italy.

Dumping of chinese goods

3544. SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE:
SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the report in "the Hindustan Times" dated 11th July, 1994, captioned "The yellow menace" to the effect that Chinese goods are being dumped into Indian market to the detriment of Indian manufacturers contrary to GATT provisions adopted at Marrakash;

(b) if so, what is Government's assessment about the extent of dumping of Chinese goods in Indian market; and

(c) which are the main items that are being dumped?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Seven petitions alleging dumping of goods from China were received. Prima-facie evidence of dumping was seen only in three of these cases. The main items alleged to be dumped are Isobutyle. Benzine, Theophylline, Caffiene, Citric Acid and 3, 4, 5 Trimethoxy Benzaldehyde.